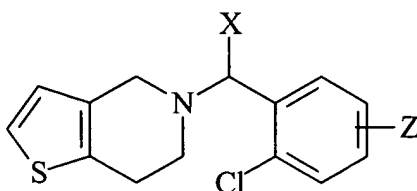


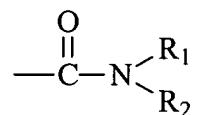
THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A process for the preparation of tetrahydrothieno[3,2-c]pyridine derivatives of the general formula 6:

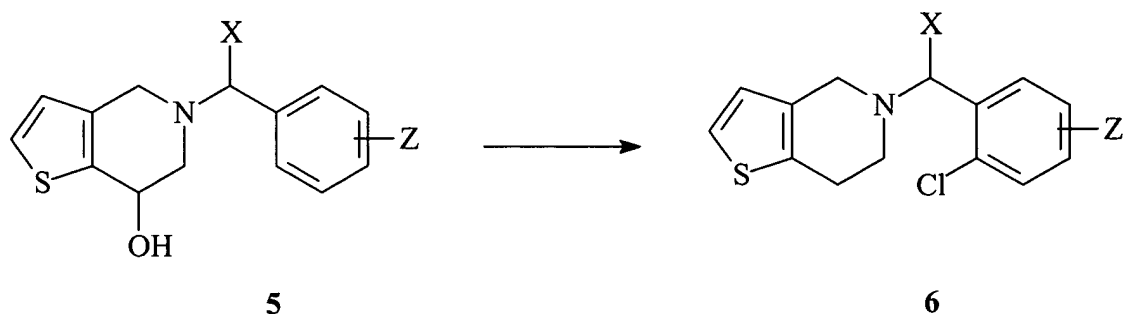


6

or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, wherein the meaning of X is carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, or carbamoyl of formula

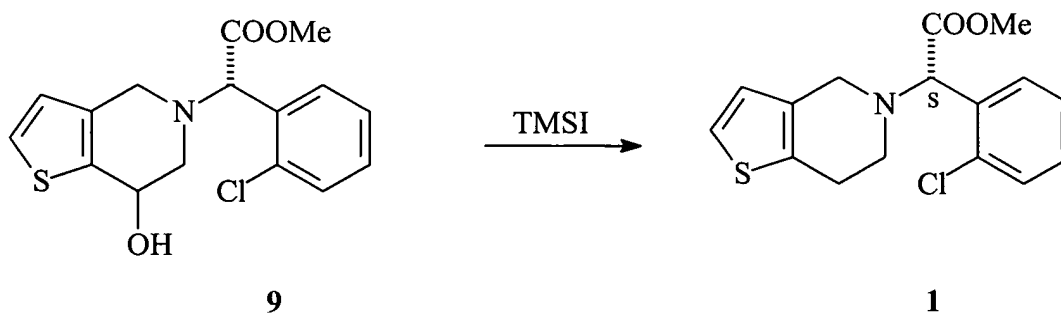


wherein R₁ and R₂ can be individually or simultaneously hydrogen, alkyl or part of a heterocyclic structure; Z can be hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy or alkoxy group, the process comprising conducting a dehydroxylation reaction on the compound of formula 5 in order to obtain a compound of formula 6, wherein said dehydroxylation reaction is effected by iodosilane represented by the formula Si(R₃)₃I, wherein R₃ selected from an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aromatic group, or combinations of thereof.



2. The process of Claim 1 wherein said iodosilane is iodosilane (TMSI).
3. The process of Claim 1 or 2 wherein said iodosilane is generated *in situ* in the reaction between chlorosilanes of formula $\text{Si}(\text{R}_4)_3\text{Cl}$ and sodium iodide, wherein R_4 is selected from an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or aromatic group, or combinations of thereof.
4. The process of Claim 3 wherein said chlorosilanes is chlorotrimethylsilane.
5. The process of Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula 6 is racemic or enantiomerically enriched Clopidogrel or pharmaceutical salts thereof.
6. The process of Claim 1 or 2 wherein the compound of formula 5 is in a free base form or in a salt form.
7. The process of Claim 1 wherein the reaction is conducted under a polar aprotic solvent, an aromatic solvent, or mixtures thereof.
8. The process of Claim 7 wherein the polar aprotic solvent is selected from acetonitrile, CH_2Cl_2 , *N,N'*-dimethylformamide and combinations thereof.
9. The process of Claim 7 wherein the aromatic solvent is selected from toluene and equivalent thereof.
10. A process for the preparation of compound of formula 1 or its pharmaceutically

acceptable salts thereof, comprising conducting a dehydroxylation reaction on the compound of formula 9 or its salts thereof, wherein said dehydroxylation reaction is effected by iodotrimethylsilane (TMSI).



11. The process of Claim 10 wherein the reaction is conducted under a polar aprotic solvent, an aromatic solvent, or mixtures thereof.
12. The process of Claim 11 wherein the polar aprotic solvent is selected from acetonitrile, CH_2Cl_2 , *N, N'*-dimethylformamide and combinations thereof.
13. The process of Claim 11 wherein the aromatic solvent is selected from toluene and equivalent thereof.